

The Dental Assistant



VOLUME III •

APRIL

• NUMBER 4

I WONDER

I wonder when the time will come
Our office girl won't chew her gum.
And I am wondering when she
Will learn to say, "Yes, that is he."
And who will tell the darling thing
That, when the phone bell gently rings,
Her answer business-like should be:
" 'Tis Beacon 7893."

And not in mossback manner slow,
Drawl out in nasal tone, "Hello."

I wonder when the sun will rise
On some glad day with this surprise.
Our office girl, in firmest tones
Will say, "Dear, 'tis a business phone,
And during hours I shall insist
You shall, from calling me, desist."
I wonder when the clothing worn
Of useless frills will be all shorn,
When high-heeled shoes and low-heeled
waist
Will be tabooed as in poor taste.

I wonder when the little dear
Will let us see her shapely ear,
When Nature's skin will be enough
Uncloaked by powder, paint or puff.
And then I wonder when the boss
On pay-day night won't be so cross.

And when the girls won't have to choke
In thick-walled tobacco smoke.
I wonder when he will abhor
The waste-box for a cuspidor.
When he will cease, from day to day,
To use his desk for foot display.

The perfect day will sure be here
When all these things come true, my
dear.

When the orange grows on the apple
tree,

And the crow becomes a honey bee,
When fishes walk upon the land
And camels on the water stand,
When up the mountains rivers walk
And the sphinx himself begins to talk.

Then girls old women will become,
And men who smoke will be struck
dumb.

But while we wait these things to see
Content with what we have we'll be.
The boss will tolerate the girls
With all their frills and puffs and curls.
The girls will say, "Our boss is dear.
If perfect, he would not be here."
Since each has faults he should repair,
We'll overlook and all forbear.

(This poem was sent in by Harriet Hamann, of Portland, Oregon, a contributing editor.)

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(This poem was sent in by Horrie Humann, of Portland, Oregon, a contributing editor.)

The Dental Assistant

JULIETTE A. SOUTHARD, *Editor*
174 West 96th Street, N. Y. C.

KATHERINE CARR, *Manager*
7056 N. Damen Ave., Chicago, Ill.

SUZANNE OLDFSON, *Subscription Manager*
4816 No. Western Ave., Chicago, Ill.

PHOEBE HAYES, *Advertising Manager*
619 Grant Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.

Contributing Editors

FLO. D. CLARK
1 DeKalb Ave.,
Brooklyn, N. Y.

MARGUERITE WILLIAMS
618 La Salle Bldg.
Minneapolis, Minn.

MARIE SILLAY SHAW
810 Candler Bldg.
Atlanta, Ga.

MAE DICKINSON
444 Doctor's Bldg.
Cincinnati, Ohio

HARRIET HAMANN
1003 Selling Bldg.
Portland, Oregon

EDITH WORTH
7 Brown Place
Red Bank, N. J.

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CONTENTS

"I WONDER".....	<i>Inside Front Cover</i>
"LOOKING THRU KEYHOLES"—B. W. Stallard, D.D.S.....	46-50
"ASEPSIS IN THE DENTAL OFFICE"—Dr. Selby J. Day.....	51
"THE DENTAL ASSISTANTS, THEIR QUALITIES, DUTIES AND SOME METHODS OF IMPROVING THEIR EFFICIENCY"—Billie Baker.....	52-53-57
"QUESTION BOX"—Elizabeth V. Shoemaker.....	54
"EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT".....	56-57
"THIS AND THAT"—Ethel Whitenton.....	58-59
"CALENDAR OF MEETINGS"—Vivian C. Sherman.....	60-62

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Looking Thru Keyholes

By B. W. Stallard, D.D.S., 6019 Madison Road, Cincinnati, O.

Presented before the Cincinnati D. A. Assn., Nov. 24, 1933

WHILE visiting the Century of Progress Exhibition I stood one evening on a bridge spanning the lagoon and witnessed the ceremony of turning on the flood-lights that illuminated the buildings. An then, looking up, I saw a tiny star, and tried to realize that from this far distant celestial body, man had captured and directed the rays that threw the switch to light this city of wonders. The next day I visited the Planetarium and while sitting in an absolutely dark auditorium, there suddenly flashed into view above me the most beautiful star-lit sky I have ever witnessed. The illusion was perfect, and there came to my mind a few lines from a poem of Shelley's:

"How beautiful this night! The balmyest sigh that vernal zephyrs ever breathed in evening's ear were discord to the speaking quietude that wraps this moveless scene. Heaven's ebon vault, studded with stars unutterably bright, seem like a canopy that love has spread to curtain a sleeping world."

And then, as the lecture started, a day was reduced to three minutes and the sun, moon and planets moved across the sky or stopped at the will of the operator. Their exact position for that day, the next, or the next month, was readily shown. And then we were transported to the equator, and I saw for the first time the constellations of the Southern sky—with the "Southern Cross" standing out in cameo-like clearness. At the end of the hour I left, marvelling at the ingenuity of man. But I know that astronomers can also tell me the distance to many of those stars, their size, their temperature, their age, and something of the materials of which they are constituted. If I ask, "How came man by this array of knowledge

concerning fields so many millions of miles away?", the answer comes, "*Because somebody looked thru keyholes.*"

I visited the Science Building, the Communications Building, the Transport Building, and all the other scientific exhibits and everywhere saw myriads of applications of those allied sciences, Physics and Chemistry—Radio, the telegraph, liquid air, oil fields, the sky-ride, in fact they were the basis of nearly everything connected with the progress of the century. Without them there would have been no buildings, no exhibits, no visitors and no City of Chicago. And if I ask "Whence came the knowledge of these two sciences that has so revolutionized our lives, and that were they suddenly taken from us, would plunge the world into chaos in less than five seconds?"—again the answer comes, "*Because somebody has been looking thru keyholes.*"

I stood for an hour in the Science Building watching a large clock that ticked as any other, yet each tick represented the passing of thousands of years in the earth's history, while synchronized on a screen were shown pictures of the earth as it appeared in the era then being ticked away. How did man gain a knowledge of conditions that existed here in those prehistoric eras; of the earth, its seas, its glaciers, its inhabitants, when man himself had not been born? The answer, "*Somebody looked thru Keyholes.*" And finally, in the Social Science Building, and elsewhere, I found revealed a fund of information about man himself, his ancestry, his development, his mind, his body, his successes and his failures, his desires, his habits and his weaknesses. Who of

us will ever forget the marvelous exhibits depicting the advance of Medicine and Dentistry? Yet when we inquire whence came this knowledge of Biology, the youngest of the Natural Sciences, I am sure you have already anticipated the answer, "*Somebody looked thru Keyholes.*"

And now I think it is time to explain why I choose this homely, inelegant phrase in referring to the birth and development of these five Natural Sciences upon which our whole civilization is based. Well, then, imagine if you will, a large room with many doors. Upon the walls of this room a master artist is putting the finishing touches on a beautiful picture, or panorama. Over there we see represented a majestic mountain range with the sunlight glistening on its snow-clad peaks, while thru the valley a glacier grinds its irresistible but eternal way. Over here are the foothills with their forest covered slopes finally blending into the broad fertile prairies, which in turn, are bounded by a river that winds its way to yonder distant sea. Back here on the other side of the mountains, whose heights effectively block the passage of all vapor-bearing clouds, we see an endless waste of desert sands. And then, his picture finished, our artist goes out, locks every door, and tells no man what he has painted.

Then men begin to surmise on what the picture represents. Some say gods, some say devils, some say both. Some in their dreams, have fantastic visions, of strange creatures, half man, half beast, and then, in their waking hours ascribe them to the picture. Strange to say, these fancies become in time to be accepted as incontrovertible facts and are passed on to the next generation as such. In time, comes one with a peculiar twist to his mental make-up, one who refuses to accept these legendary tales, and does what no one had ever thought of doing before. He "*Looks*

Thru a Keyhole," and in his limited range of vision sees the snow-clad mountain peak. True, he has learned but little, but that little is a part of the truth. Then another looks from a different angle, and sees the desert wastes. A controversy arises between these two as to what the painting depicts. Another, and another, look and then, by comparing notes and fitting their various discoveries together, they realize that they blend into one harmonious whole and that the artist had portrayed a magnificent landscape.

Well, back in the time when there was no time, Nature created a masterpiece. So vast that a ray of light traveling at a speed of 186,000 miles a second cannot cross it in a million years. Yet so minute in detail that a microscope of a billion magnifications cannot make it visible to the naked eye. So complicated that it comprises everything that ever was, ever will be, or will never be known; yet so simple that its physical construction is entirely of electrical force and space. No artist can copy its color, no poet can sing its beauties. It depicts life, happiness, death and destruction, yet, withal, all is harmony. For *Nature has created a Universe*. Thousands of years ago man appeared upon the scene. A rather poor specimen, he was, as he roamed the earth fighting for existence. Time and again he seemed doomed to destruction, but always some hardier clan that had managed to find a more favorable environment, remained to carry on the struggle. He was superior to the animals that were his neighbors in only one respect, he had developed an intellect or reasoning power that enabled him to do two things; to profit by his experiences, and to indulge in speculative thought on things that he did not understand. By the first he discovered some arts that enabled him to make his existence less precarious.

For instance, it is likely that after

eating some melons or fruit and scattering the inedible seed around his crude abode, he in time, realized that where the seed were scattered, other fruit of similar nature grew. And finally, he came to the conclusion that it was unnecessary for him to continually travel in search of sustenance; but instead, by a little labor on his part the virgin soil could be made to bring forth that which he required. Had we time we could find similar explanations for his adoption of the use of fire for heating and cooking, the use of wheels to enable him to transport heavier loads, and the use of levers to move obstructions from his path. But of the natural laws governing all these things, he knew nothing.

Regarding his second faculty, that of speculative thought, he was also governed, of course, by his experiences. A log that day across his path would not move unless some outside agency gave it a shove. A stone that barred the entrance to his cave must be rolled away by the power of some physical, animate being. Hence, when he saw the working of the forces of nature, he reasoned that some similar agency was the directing force. These agencies, in his mind, were spirits, or gods, and they were legion. As the result of the working of nature's forces, was sometimes in his favor, but more often imperiled his very existence, to him it meant that some of the gods were beneficent, others vindictive; some at times friendly and at others angry. The sunshine and warm rains were blessings from kindly gods, while thunder and lightening, the roaring storms, floods, famine and pestilence, were the outpourings of godly wrath which he vainly tried to appease by sacrifice, often of human life. And thus, through thousands of years, he developed mentally, up from the jungle thru the Stone age, the Bronze age, building up civilization after civilization, the Chinese, the

Egyptian, the Babylonian, and many others; yet with never a glimpse of the great Masterpiece of that incomparable artist, Mother Nature. But about three thousand years ago, a few individuals had the temerity to question the authenticity of some of these old legends, and disregarding all precedent, "*Looked thru the Keyhole.*" as it were, and *Science was born.*

And now you are disappointed perhaps, to learn that by this rather inelegant term I have been referring to the observation of Nature's laws. Yet the figure is particularly apt, for, as "*thru a keyhole*" the range of vision is limited, so it is in the study of nature. Only an inkling of some great truth may be obtained by perhaps years of observation and study. On this slight foundation important theories are founded, to be verified or disproven by further bits of the truth when brought to light by some persistent observer. To the ancient Greeks must be given the credit for endeavoring to release the minds of men from the mesh of superstitions that had been accumulating for thousands of years. Socrates, one of the first to break away from the ancient beliefs, taught that man should seek the truth, tho he believed it was to be obtained by intuition instead of observation; in other words, that it would be revealed from within rather than be discovered from without. For thus advocating a breaking away from established customs, Socrates was charged with corrupting the youth of his day, was sentenced to drink the cup of hemlock, and died a martyr to his convictions. Plato followed, and while he too, believed in the power of the mind to evolve the truth, nevertheless his teachings in philosophy did much to prepare the way for the great master who was to follow. And that one was Aristotle, the greatest of the Greeks the founder of the art of "*looking thru keyholes,*" if you please, and the one to whose memory

this paper would be dedicated were it a masterpiece worthy of being preserved in the archives of your society. Aristotle taught that only by observation of the phenomena of nature could the truth be learned! and, lest the senses err, these observations should be repeated again and again. A protege of Alexander the Great, he had ample means to carry out his teachings, and did an enormous amount of investigating in every line of what we today term the Natural Sciences. Many of his conclusions were incorrect of course. The telescope, the microscope, and other thousands of aids to man in making his observations, were still far in the future. The remarkable part is that he did so well.

The scene now shifts from Greece to Alexandria in Egypt, where all the scholars in the world assembled about 300 B.C., and, following the methods of Aristotle made rapid advance in Astronomy, Physics, Biology and Mathematics. The latter reached a high stage of perfection, and it was here that Euclid wrote his Elements of Geometry that is still used as a textbook today. The Roman Empire, coming into ascendancy, cared nothing for the sciences of the Greeks; and when this was followed by the so-called Dark Ages; Science, like Rip Van Winkle fell asleep, not to awaken for 1400 years. In the meantime the political, social and religious nature of the world changed. Western Europe dominated the political map. A new religion controlled the mind and destiny of man, and promulgated the doctrine that nothing contrary to the established teachings of the ancient writings could be true. Gone was the advance in knowledge the Greeks had attained in a thousand years of research work, or shall we say, "*keyhole looking*." The earth was again flat, and the center of the universe. Its mountains and valleys had been carved by Noah's flood. The

sun and planets revolved around it. Each and every form of life was the result of a special act of creation which was known to have occurred in the year 4004 B.C. and, as one professor figured out, (tho how, I do not know) on the afternoon of October 23rd. I wish we had time to follow out the re-awaking of Science and the terrific struggle it had before it reached, and then surpassed, the heights to which the Greeks had developed it. Roger Bacon of England, in the thirteenth century again emphasized the importance of Aristotle's methods of observations, and did a great deal of research work, but he lived 200 years too soon. For his experiments in Chemistry and Physics he was twice convicted of dabbling in magic arts and spent twenty years in prison. Leonardo De Vinci, whom we know as the painter of Mona Lisa and The Lord's Supper, was one of the most versatile men that ever lived, and studied and wrote in every field of science, yet he had little influence on the thought of his day. Copernicus worked out the theory that the earth and planets revolve around the sun, as first advanced by Pythagoras, in Greece, but for thirteen years was afraid to publish his writings. He died just a few days after they were published, but Bruno was burned at the stake for advocating the Copernician theory. Galileo's invention of the telescope and his subsequent investigations in astronomy, and Kepler's discovery of the elliptical form of the planetary orbits, confirmed the work of Copernicus; but Galileo, under threat of torture was compelled to refrain from teaching that which he knew to be true. These things are mentioned merely to show that society has never received kindly the results of the efforts of these determined "*keyhole observers*" and demonstration after demonstration, proof after proof, must be brought

forth before we will accept them instead of our cherished traditions.

We cannot give more time to the triumphs of Astronomy, Physics, Chemistry and Geology, though it is a story of intense interest, crowded with romance and adventure. Instead, let us turn to the new science, Biology—Hippocrates, of ancient Greece, and Galen, of Alexandria had long ago founded the healing art of Medicine. And the work of Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood; Lister, who discovered the cause of infection and turned the hospitals from pest-houses into havens of mercy, Koch, Pasteur, Miller, Morton, Wells, Black, and even our own Dr. Weston A. Price, with hundreds of others of equal prominence have advanced Medicine and Dentistry to their present high standard. And "keyhole lookers" they were every one of them. Let us turn back to the middle of the last century, to the man whose work will probably have more bearing on the future of society than that of any other I have mentioned; Chas. Darwin, who proved that man himself, instead of being something outside of this picture of Nature's that we have been talking about, something not amenable to Nature's laws, was just as much the result of nature's handiwork as the rest of the universe. Subject to the same laws of evolution, whatever they may be. Then the researches of Mendell and others proving the laws of heredity in plants and animals, became just as true in principal for man, and that new branch of Biology, namely Eugenics, became a fertile field for the peering eyes of the "keyhole researchers." What a revolutionary idea! But this new science was destined to meet with determined opposition. It upset our preconceived notion of things. So did every other Science in its infancy. But it is a rule that has been well proven that

every idea that has developed into a popular belief, without being first tested in the light of science, is almost invariably wrong. We wonder how people in the past could have failed to recognize the truth when it was presented to them, and which is so obvious to us now. But times and human nature have not changed in that respect and we resist, just as stubbornly as they, any effort to upset our established beliefs. Now I have been trying to show that these "keyhole lookers" were those extremely rare individuals who are possessed of, "first", a desire to learn the truth regardless of any or all existing ideas; and, "second", a dogged persistence that enables them to drive on and on until their object is attained, regardless of opposition or public opinion. I am sure we will all agree that the fulfillment of such an ambition should only result in the betterment of society. But has it? I wonder!

Those revelations of science that could be seized upon by inventors, engineers, business men, and capitalists, to build up an enormous industrial civilization to their personal financial profit, have been speedily recognized and put to use. A machine age has developed whereby one pair of hands can do the work formerly requiring a hundred, and often a child's hand at that. Too late, we call upon the so-called "brain trust" to get us out of our economic muddle. Where the bow and arrow sufficed for our ancestors in their warfare, today airplanes, submarines, rapid-fire guns, poison gas, etc., all misapplied fruits of the labors of our "keyhole researchers," have made warfare so horrible that civilized nations are trying vainly to outlaw it. But all this is common knowledge often repeated; so it is to another phase of this question that I wish to direct your attention.

(Continued in next issue)

Asepsis in the Dental Office

By Dr. Selby J. Day, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Written for the Dental Assistant's Study Club of the Second District, N. Y.

ASEPSIS" is of the utmost importance in all dental operations. The Dental Assistant plays a big part in maintaining this ideal. Complete "ASEPSIS" at all times in a dental operating room is prohibitive, because of the cost involved. Certainly though, we can maintain the degree of "ASEPSIS" at a high point if we are careful and remember a few fundamentals. Fortunately, operations about the Oral Cavity do not require the "ASEPSIS" necessary in operations on other parts of the body. The mouth is already an infected field, but we should make every effort not to superimpose a new infection. In as few words as possible, I will try to give a few rules that should be essential to every dental assistant.

1. It is as essential for the assistant to wash her hands thoroughly before helping the dentist, as it is for him to do so before working on a patient.

2. After washing, do not touch anything in the room or about your person.

3. Use a sterile forcep to pick the instruments from the sterilizer, and not your fingers.

4. Place instruments on a sterile towel and cover with another sterile towel until ready to use.

5. All applicators, sponges, and pledgets of cotton should be kept in a sterile covered jar, and picked

out when needed with a sterile forcep—Not your fingers.

6. Care of the hypodermic syringe.

Boil the needles in a small tray and place tray in a covered jar containing 75% Alcohol. The syringe is kept in a sterile towel after boiling. Do not boil syringes or needles with the instruments. And do not use Bicarbonate, or other preparations, in the water in which you boil them. To use, pick a needle out with a sterile forcep and insert it into the Syringe. **NEVER TOUCH THE NEEDLE WITH YOUR FINGERS.** If you are using carpules, they too should be kept in a solution of Alcohol. If you are preparing your own solution and using tablets, the same technic can be applied. Boil the crucible in plain water and keep it in a sterile covered jar. When you wish to use it, pick it out with a sterile forcep and pour in the required amount of distilled water. Boil the water and then add the necessary number of Ringer and Novocaine Tablets. Pick the tablets out with a sterile forcep. **DO NOT POUR THEM FIRST INTO YOUR HAND.**

Absolute "ASEPSIS" is necessary in the handling of the hypodermic syringe. This is the one operation in the dental office where the chain of "ASEPSIS" must not be broken. The Post-Operative complications following the use of Novocaine are 95% due to Sepsis. **CULTIVATE THE GOLDEN RULE.**



The Dental Assistants, Their Qualities, Duties and Some Methods of Improving their Efficiency

By Billie Baker, President of the Chattanooga Society for D.A.

Read before the Tennessee State Dental Assistants' Association
April 27, 1933, Knoxville, Tennessee

THERE is no profession which makes greater demands on those participating in its practice than does dentistry. The dentist is required to be an artist, a mechanic, a surgeon and a collector. You as an assistant must obtain considerable knowledge along all of these lines. Perhaps you realize that when you started your work in the profession, you had no idea of the many intricate details it was going to be necessary for you to learn. You did not realize this new work was going to require you to be a secretary, a bookkeeper, a technician, a diplomat and a thorough student of psychology. You probably thought that your duties would be a simple routine of making appointments, answering the phone, keeping the office in order, mailing statements, etc.

Let us assume that you are starting at the beginning and locate the causes of your success or failure. You were untrained, the dentist was busy and even if he were not, it would be impossible for him to tell you the things you would have to learn. Consequently it is necessary for the assistant to make use of every faculty she has in trying to prepare herself for this work. If she does not do this, soon the doctor shows he is not pleased and the assistant wonders why. As a consequence of inability to visualize and see ahead she is soon looking for another job. Poor judgment is responsible for most failures, for it takes just as much work to be a failure as it does to be a success.

Some dentists employ two girls, one as an assistant, the other for the re-

ception room and business office. If only one girl is employed to do both secretarial and assistant's work, she indeed has a position which places on her a great responsibility. It is the duties of this type of assistant that I shall discuss in this paper, and the qualities which she should possess. The worth of any individual or article depends upon its qualities and no profession or business requires qualities of a higher standard than that necessary to become an ideal dental assistant. Because of this fact, you should be exceedingly proud. Some of the many qualities you should possess are — *integrity, intelligence, appearance, neatness, initiative, patience, attention, concentration, courage and common sense.*

Integrity—To have integrity, is to be honest, honorable, creditable, suitable, fair and straight forward in conduct and thought. Free from deception or fraud. Be faithful and frank about all matters intrusted to you.

Intelligence—Intelligence or mental acuteness is absolutely as necessary as a willingness to try. Some minds are dusty lumber rooms, cob webbed attics filled with a useless accumulation. There is a stale air about them as if their gates are shut and double barred. In contrast an inquisitive mind always has an open door. It is an alert organ, eager to learn and be more useful.

Appearance — Your appearance should be of extreme neatness and refinement. We may not go so far as to assert that clothes make the workman, but however generous and charitable

we may be, we must admit, if we are honest, that carelessness and slovenliness in the matter of attire inwardly leave a most unfavorable impression. It would be well right here to remember that some patients will come to the doctor's office for his services because at sometime or place you have impressed them. Always remember that appearance is nothing more nor less than an outward expression of inward pride. It is pride that insists that clothes shall be clean, shoes polished and hands and nails well kept. Pride does not only do this, but it governs our entire appearance and appearance helps to unlimit our success by placing us out of the category of the unbecoming and making us finished, clever and tactful.

Initiative—Without initiative in any business or profession, progress and success is impossible. Practice the art of visualizing. See the things that need to be done and then do them. The dental assistant should learn to harness her mind and train herself. Analyze yourself, look deep into every quality that you should have and develop it. Learn to live to-day for the work you may have to do tomorrow, so that when tomorrow comes you have not dissipated the strength and energy you should have to make you physically and mentally fit to meet the demands of alertness, patience, tact and general fitness that the new day demands of you.

Concentration—As a rule the assistant who ranks as a failure has never mastered the art of concentration, keeping her mind fixed on each duty as she performs it. Dentistry requires attention and alertness and has no place for haphazardness; you cannot go around doing one thing and dreaming about another. Keep your mind fixed on each duty as you perform it.

Patience.—It takes more patience in a dental office than in any other business known. Nevertheless, it is a quality which cannot be dispensed

with and one that pays big dividends.

Courage—An essential of success in anything. It will make you strong in performing your duties correctly. It will make you persistent, it will dispel weakness. It will steady you at a time when the doctor needs you most. Courage will gain for you respect from everyone with whom you come in contact. Our duties are a combination of tedious procedures which requires us to be capable of quick adjustments in order to be able to correctly perform the present moment's task.

The efficient assistant should not only be able to operate all of the equipment, but know what care is required for its complete maintenance. Some of the assistant's duties are: keeping the chair positioned, operating the unit equipment, changing and clearing instruments, operating water syringes, saliva ejector, cleaning hand pieces, brushes, polishing cups, adjusting current for various instruments, care of bracket table, making X-ray exposures, solutions and developing films. Know each instrument by name and have a definite place for it. Be able to locate any one of them at once. The above named are only a few of the many duties that the assistant performs daily.

You must bear in mind that reward is attained after advancement. We are all striving for this goal. In order to reach it, you must search your work for new sources of interest, you cannot work for a man day in and day out in the same old spiritless automatic way. Keep your interest alive by trying to discover new things in old surroundings. Take stock, compare the future with the past. Set a goal and go earnestly about the business of reaching it. I know of no better way than to love your work. Be so honest and fair with your employer that he cannot help being fair with you. Think of your profession with loyalty. Speak of it with praise.

(Continued on page 57)



Question Box*

Elizabeth V. Shoemaker
Kew Plaza, Kew Gardens, N. Y.



Q. How can I remove Silver Nitrate from my uniform?

A. First touch the spots with Iodine and then Ammonia. Rinse well in clear water.

Q. What suggestion have you for preventing Compound from sticking to a container that I use in which to soften the Compound. We have no regular heater.

A. If you use a pan for heating the Compound, I would suggest placing a large gauze napkin, 9x9, in the pan with the water. Put the Compound in the gauze and twist the four ends of the napkin together. An elastic band or a paper clip will hold these ends and permit lifting out the Compound without burning the fingers. If your pan is immaculate and a fresh napkin used each time, there can be no complaint from the patient if this is all brought to the chair when needed.

Q. Please tell me the difference between an Anodyne, Hemostatic and Antiseptic.

A. Anodynes or Analgesics are medicaments that relieve pain such as: Morphine, Codein, Atropine, Opium and Creosote. Hemostatics are sometimes called Astringents

and are used to stop or check the flow of blood. Some of the more common are: Sulphate of Copper, Tannic Acid, Nitrate of Silver and numerous prepared medicaments sold under trade names. Antiseptics are medicaments that arrest the development of germs such as: Carbolic Acid, Alcohol, Bichloride of Mercury.

Q. How can a vulcanite denture that has been trimmed be polished?

A. First smooth with a sand paper disk, then polish on the lathe with pumice and then with whiting. Wash thoroughly.

Q. Should Sterilization be made one operation a day or do you advocate it being done after each patient?

A. There seems to be no question about Sterilizing EVERYTHING AFTER EACH PATIENT. All instruments used must be sterilized each time unless enough duplicates are on hand to use a separate set for each patient; something we have never heard about. Of course, dry dressings can be sterilized and put aside for the day. There is really only one rule to follow, viz: EVERYTHING used for Every Patient, must first be Sterilized.

* We invite our readers to send in questions and suggestions. Personal replies will be sent upon receipt of self addressed and stamped envelope. Data must be received by the 3rd of the month for the issue of the succeeding month. Send to ELIZABETH V. SHOEMAKER, Kew Plaza, Kew Gardens, N. Y.

Squibb Go-Getter Club Winners

IN ACCORDANCE with its annual custom, E. R. Squibb & Sons, during the first week of the year, entertained in New York the winners of gold-star honors of the Squibb Go-Getter Club for 1933, to wit: Pacific Coast Sales Manager Ralph W. Keim of San Francisco, and following Representatives: C. A. Mooney, Los Angeles, Calif.; N. L. Rogers, Bridgeport, Conn.; D. A. Atkinson, St. Louis, Mo.; R. L. Felt, Spokane, Wash.; F. E. Thomas, Denver, Col.; T. I. McGuire, Portland, Ore.; A. H. Taylor, Chicago, Ill.; G. G. Johnson, San Jose, Calif.; J. T. McAloon, Omaha, Neb.; T. C. Hornbuckle, Houston, Tex.; F. H. Lowe, New Orleans, La.; P. W. Macker, Los Angeles, Calif. The Pacific Coast established a new club record by winning the divisional championship two years in succession. The salesmen-winners of gold-star honors are those who have made the best sales records during the club contest which starts in January and closes at the end of November each year. In addition to monetary and honorary awards, the contest winners, as guests of honor, are invited to the home offices in New York for the enjoyment of a special program of entertainment.

The closing event of the celebration was the annual banquet of the Squibb Go-Getter Club at the New York Athletic Club on January 6. The speakers were: Carleton H. Palmer, President of E. R. Squibb & Sons; Theodore Weicker, Executive Vice-President; Dr. J. F. Anderson, 2nd Vice-President; F. W. Nitardy, Vice-President in Charge of Manufacturing, and R. D. Keim, Vice-President - Director of Sales. General Sales Manager J. C. Hearn was toastmaster. The guests, more than 100 in number, included the sales managers of the nine Squibb sales divisions of the country, executives, department heads and Canadian representatives.

Health Prayer Found in English Cathedral

IN THE quaint little town of Chester, Cheshire County, England, the following prayer was found on the walls of an old Cathedral. According to the National Dairy Council, it contains real mental hygiene for modern Americans.

"Give me a good digestion, Lord,

And also something to digest;

Give me a healthy body, Lord

And sense to keep it at its best.

Give me a healthy mind, good Lord,

To keep the good and pure in sight

Which seeing sin is not appalled

But finds a way to set it right.

Give me a mind that is not bored,

That does not shimper, whine or sigh.

Don't let me worry overmuch

About the fussy thing called I.

Give me a sense of humor, Lord,

Give me the grace to see a joke;

To get some happiness from life

And pass it on to other folk."

(Sent in by Sarah Hood, Phila., Pa.)

Do you know that—

When addressing the presiding officer from the floor of a meeting, the person should stand and put the question to the presiding officer and thank that officer before sitting down.

Do you know that—

The Dentists' Wives League, Inc., was recently organized in New York for the purpose of advancing the cultural and social interests of its members and to render assistance and relief to needy dentists and to their families in New York State.

The Dental Assistant

A Monthly Publication

A Journal for Dental Assistants Devoted to Their Interests and Education
Monthly publication of the A.D.A.A. A Journal for Dental Assistants Devoted to their Education and Interests and to the Efficient Conduct of Dental Offices. Publication of all statements, opinions, or data, is not to be considered as an endorsement of same by the magazine or its publishers.

NEW YORK CITY, APRIL, 1934

EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

The Assistant's Service and Loyalty to Her Employer

"**SERVICE**" is something that is due and must be paid by us all, who would avoid discredit. "*Service*" is an obligation, a debt, which we can only discharge by our best efforts in the affairs of life. The abiding sense of "*service*" and "*loyalty*" is the very dignity of character. They are upholding laws of the dental assistant in her noblest attitude.

"*Loyalty*" is defined as devoted allegiance, for "*loyalty*" must be regarded as one of the most pleasing as well as essential attributes of a fine character. To be loyal, is to stand firm by what we believe. Assistants, be not diverted from your duty to your employer. No one was ever hurt by doing their duty to their employer, on the contrary one act well done or one sacrifice well made will bring true reward. If we want success, we must go after it, since it will not come to us and we have no time to lose. Begin at the foot of the hill, and go to the top for there is no royal road to success. Through "*service*" the assistant learns from experience, the right thing to do and the right way to do it. An assistant should be "*loyal*" to her employer, and will be, when she lets no one speak slightly of him and keeps silent regarding any defects in the management of the affairs of the office that she might observe.

We are "*loyal*" when we correct the faults and improve conditions for the benefit of our employer, for loyalty to your employer is expressed by working for him as you would for yourself, being watchful of his interests, etc., but if your service should lead to conniving at fraud or in other violations, then "*loyalty*" to yourself would force you to leave his service. To be "*loyal*" we must be prompt in all appointments, for punctuality is politeness. If you want to be of "*real service*" to your employer, concentrate on your work, so that when the "*service*" is to be rendered, you will have all the details mastered, for when you have your mind scattered among other things, you soon

lose your enthusiasm, and "service without enthusiasm" is impossible. Assistants, let us all strive to acquire the "spirit of loyalty", and make dental assisting a high calling, calculated to bring its full need of satisfaction. We face the faces of suffering humanity, but we can change those lines of suffering to a smile, by going through life, ministering to the welfare of mankind, and how happy then we will be when we sum up our "service" and "loyalty" to others. For we will find that it has been the only thing really worth while that we have contributed to our time and generation.

What was it that gave the dental assistant a position in the eyes of the world? "It was loyal service". Let every assistant take this to heart and promise herself that she will do her duty, in placing her profession on a little higher plane and by so doing, give credit to those splendid women who gave us the foundation of what we are enjoying today. In conclusion let me leave this thought with you:

If I were a cobbler, it would be my pride
The best of cobblers to be;
If I were a tinker, no tinker beside
Should mend an old kettle like me.

For Your Own Good

MEMBERS of the A. D. A. A. did you ever stop to think how priceless our DENTAL ASSISTANT Magazine is to us. We have many reasons why our Magazine should be a cherished possession aside from its benefits we will derive from it. I know that all Dental Assistants, are very much interested in this magazine, and all are willing to give information on any subject that might be asked of them as contributors. We are proud of those assistants who have already contributed their thoughts to this magazine, and know they have done it with one object in view, and that was to make it possible for other Dental Assistants to benefit from their notes, and to be helpful in their offices. I personally know that it is the modest hope of our dear Editor, Mrs. Juliette A. Southard and members of the staff, that when this magazine is tendered to the Dental Assistants' Associations it may be useful, and also a guide for us in the profession of Dental Assisting.

ETHEL MACK, President
Indiana D. A. Assn.

THE DENTAL ASSISTANTS, THEIR QUALITIES, DUTIES AND SANE METHODS OF IMPROVING THEIR EFFICIENCY

(Continued from page 53)

Base your expectations of reward on a solid foundation of service and be willing to pay the price in honest effort. Look upon your work not as drudgery, and remember that success lies only within yourself.

Make a study of your profession.

Learn every side of it in detail. Read, visualize and experiment. Soon you will find yourself creating new ideas, then you will be mixing brain with effort and your work will become system and method instead of haphazardness.

This and That*

By Ethel Whitenton, Memphis, Tenn.

RUTH ROGERS is looking grand lately. Was it the operation or daily naps? Detroit hails two more brides, Mrs. Richardson and Barbara Ball. Evelyn Kemp is now helping the boys at the U. of Detroit Dental School (or Vice Versa). Sadie Wallace was the charming hostess at a successful Millionaire party recently.

We note with pleasure the recovery of Mary Spinoza, Pres., Passaic County.

Cookies, Teas and Candy helped make the last meet enjoyable for the Pittsburgh girls. The Dental Anatomy class under Dr. S. S. Haudenschild is progressing having an exhibit at the Penna. State meet. Blanche McKee is becoming quite an expert at the art of carving.

From Cincinnati we learn the news of Daisy Smith becoming Mrs. Thomas Moore. Katherine Klohs is still confined to bed and will probably be allowed to get out in another month. Mrs. Betty Behmyer Feinthal is rejoicing over the arrival of a son Feb. 18th. Eleven clinicians from C.D.A.A. will add a bit to the Dayton D. Society meeting. Helen Hendricks was hostess to a get-acquainted tea at which members provided entertainment with talent from their society.

Helen Tobin of Savannah enjoyed Mardi Gras at New Orleans. The 5th district society from Georgia completed the 1st 'flight'—a series of 30 games in the Atlanta Bowling League. Prize winners: Highest Average—Ann Ragsdale; Highest single game—J. Katherine Moore; Highest total of 3 games—Marie Shaw. Great! Girls! The 6th district (Macon) reports that Eva Gordon has been quite ill.

Ethel Runge of Toledo sends a good report of three new members.

Speaking of parties, dinners, clinics and interesting meetings the Memphis D. A. Assn. has had them all, really doing themselves proud at a night of clinics attended by the representative Dentists. The winners—Ola Lundy and Clara Taylor will clinic at Chattanooga in April at the state meeting. The Gwinner-Mercere Co. served refreshments. Eileen McGuire was selected to read a paper competing for a loving cup at the state meet which was offered by the Nashville Society. Mae Morris is a new member in Memphis. The Chattanooga girls are making big plans for the meeting. They can also suggest a good money making suggestion. Sell at \$.15 per chance a China doll dressed in 2 \$1.00 bills. They regret the loss to their society of Pauline Overall who was the target for Cupid's dart and Ina Frapart who is singing rock-a-bye-baby.

Mrs. Edna Storer, representing the Monmouth County D. A. Assn. of N. J. was a clinician at the New Jersey State Mid-Winter meeting in Jersey City.

The Philadelphia Assn. is proud of its worthy members—Misses Anna R. Williams and Sarah Briggs, with Drs. J. Curry and John Fogg respectively have celebrated 30 and 28 years of service with their employer. Congratulations!

The Kansas City assistants are planning great things for the Tri-State meet May 6th-9th and extend a welcome to all Missouri, Kansas and Oklahoma girls. Ada Kagog and Alta Kennedy were recent hostesses. Audrey Hamett is 'slowly but surely' recovering from an appendectomy, and will soon be back at her office.

Mary Kreager recently served as hostess to the Dayton girls with a Chow Mein dinner (and Cards). Sh! Ruth Petrie is soon expecting a 'blessed event' and our hope is that she will soon be back. Esther Swank's 'blessed event' was a son.

Winter time is providing great fun in sports for the Seattle girls. Hazel Dresser, Helen Richardson, and Mary Thatcher attended the Ski Tournament on the municipal course. It seems that it is almost a paradox that in February flowers are blooming in the out-door gardens in Seattle while a 2 or 3-hour ride in the Cascade Mts. brings one to the heart of this sport.

After seeing Eleanor Weiss' laboratory which she so effectively painted black with green trim we suggest that she take up interior decorating of Dental Offices. Some of the other girls have hobbies in Seattle: Selma Asmervig—Dancing, sewing; Harriet Lill—Lodge, making Afghans; Lillian Evans—Reading (sleeping); Elizabeth Forsyth—Elocution (dialects); Viola Semon—Golf, hooked rug making.

Aloise Clement writes that she has about recovered from a rather serious illness. Her mother certainly appreciated the words of cheer from 'her girls.'

The Omaha girls have offered a \$5.00 prize for the best clinic, the winner also going to the State meeting in May.

The writer appreciates heaps, the numerous letters each month and altho' the space is so limited that the write-ups must be brief she enjoys each letter and begs that you keep up the good work. Thanks!

Dan Cupid is at work in Alabama also, Hattie Lee Johnson, president of the Birmingham Society is now Mrs. Rex Gavin. Ruth Hoffar is always a perfect hostess. We enjoyed a delightful "kiddy" party at her home Feb. 3. Those who were absent missed a great time. Abbie Pryor reports a marvelous trip to New York City the month of February. She attended the meeting of the N. Y. E. & E. Society. The Birmingham girls held their annual dance March 21 at Pickwick Club.

*All material for this department must be in the hands of *Editor* ETHEL WHITENTON, 906 Exchange Bldg., Memphis, Tenn., by the 3rd of each month for publication in the issue of the month immediately following.

Your Work

If you put a little loving into all the work you do,
 And a little bit of gladness and a little bit of you,
 And a little bit of sweetness—and a little bit of song,
 Not a day will seem too toilsome, nor a day will seem too long;
 And you will be attractive and the world will stop to look,
 And the world will see a sweetness, like the tinkling of a brook,
 In the finished job; and then the world will turn to look to you,
 With a world appreciation of the things you've found to do.

Calendar of Meetings*

Vivian C. Sherman, 1519 Washington Building, Tacoma, Wash.

ALABAMA

Alabama D.A. Association

Meeting—April 23, 24, 25, 1934.

Place—Jefferson Davis Hotel, Montgomery, Ala.

Speakers—Dr. Boyd S. Gardner, Rochester, Minn.; Dr. Oren A. Oliver, Nashville, Tenn.; Dr. Chalmers Webster, Montgomery, Ala.; Dr. C. J. Caraballo, Tampa, Fla.; Dr. Hugh Carr, Montgomery, Ala.; Dr. Joseph P. Wahl, New Orleans, La.; Dr. E. W. Patton, Birmingham, Ala.

Clinics—By members of the Association.

Louise Dismukes, Chairman.

Abbie Pryor, Chm. Publ., 418 Medical Arts Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles D.A. Assn.

Meeting—April 13th, 1934, 6:30 p.m.

Place—L'Aileen Dining Room, Bracks Shop Building.

"Junior College Nite."

Speaker—Miss Victoria McAlmon, Placement Sec'y. at Los Angeles Junior College.

Topic—"Women in Business."

Elvero Henkes, Chm. Publ., 236 University Professional Bldg., Westwood Village, Los Angeles.

San Diego Co. D. A. Society

Meeting—April 23rd, 1934, 7:30 p.m.

Place—Residence of Dr. Lawrence Bosworth, 3716 Sixth Street.

Speaker—Dr. Lawrence Bosworth.

Topic—"Early History of the Dental Assistants Association."

Roberta Steimke, Chm. Publ., 626 First Nat'l. Bank Bldg., San Diego.

GEORGIA

5th Dist. D. A. Soc., Atlanta.

Meeting—April 10th, 1934, 6 p.m.

Place—815 Candler Bldg.

Speaker—Dr. W. W. Memminger.

Topic—"Does Acting Play a Part in the Professional Life?"

Marie Sillay Shaw, Chm. Publ., 810 Candler Bldg., Atlanta.

ILLINOIS

Peoria D.A. Assn.

Meeting—April 10th, 1934, 6 p.m.

Speaker—Miss Mildred Grieser.

Topic—"Dental Anatomy"

Lula Pursifull, Chm. Publ., 805 Peoria Life Bldg.

MICHIGAN

Detroit D. A. Society

Meeting—April 3rd, 1934, 7 p.m.

Place—1312 Eaton Tower.

Speaker—Mrs. A. J. Norman.

Topic—"Ideals."

Current Events—Agnes James.

Meeting—April 17th, 1934, 7:15 p.m.

Place—1312 Eaton Tower.

Clinic—By Dental Anatomy Class.

Leader—Miss Alvord.

Current Events—Barbara Ball.

Corinne Noran, 2577 Van Dyke Ave., Detroit.

NEBRASKA

Lincoln D. A. Assn.

Meeting—April 2nd, 1934, 7:30 p.m.

Place—Cornhusker Hotel.

Speaker—Dr. F. W. Webster.

Topic—"Professional Conduct of a Dental Assistant."

A buffet supper will be given by Eddice Lindsay and Betty Cook at Miss Lindsay's home, April 19th.

Lillian Burcham, 1016 Stuart Bldg., Lincoln.

Omaha D. A. Society

Meeting—April 10th, 1934.

Place—310 Omaha Bldg. & Loan Bldg.

Group Clinics—By members.

The Officers and Chairmen of their respective committees are working on the program for the annual meeting of the Nebraska D. A. Assn. to be held in Lincoln, May 22nd and 23rd, 1934.

Mary Haney, President, Nebraska D. A. Assn., 2210½ Military Ave., Omaha.

NEW JERSEY

New Jersey State D. A. Assn.

Meeting—April 25th, 1934.

Place—Asbury Park.

This will be the Third Annual Meeting.

Mabel Clark, Chm. Publ., 507 Orange Street, Newark.

Bergen County D. A. Assn.

Meeting—April 9th, 1934, 8 p.m.

Place—Office of Dr. S. P. Farr, 288

State Street, Hackensack, N. J.

Clinician—Mr. P. J. Bradford.

Topic—"Gold Inlay Technique."

Emmerett Fordham, Chm. Publ., National Bank Bldg., Palisades, N. J.

Monmouth County D. A. Assn.

Meeting—April 25th, 1934, 7:45 p.m.

Place—No. 2 Third Avenue, Long Branch, N. J.

Speaker—Dr. H. V. Garrity.

Topic—To be announced.

Ena E. Barkalow, Chm. Publ., 16 West Main Street, Freehold, N. J.

NEW YORK

E. & E. Society for D. A., 1st District

Meeting—April 10th, 1934, 7:45 p.m.

Place—Offices of E. R. Squibb & Sons, 745 Fifth Ave., N. Y. C.

Essayist—Gloria Rappaport.

Topic—"The Dental Assistant in Oral Surgery."

Esther Kahn, Chm. Publ., 440 East Sixth Street, N. Y. C.

D. A. Study Club, 2nd District

Meeting—April 6th, 1934, 8 p.m.

Place—62 Hanson Place, Brooklyn, N. Y. Clinic Rooms of Second District Dental Soc.

Speaker—Dr. Charles M. McNeeley, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Topic—"The Dental Assistants Value in Solving the Denture Patient's Problems."

Meeting—April 20th, 1934, 8 p.m.

Place—Same as above.

Essayist—Dr. Russell Stein, N. Y. C.

Subject—"Hypnotic Influence in Dentistry."

Nomination of Officers.

Marguerite Simpson, 103 Pierrepont Street, Brooklyn, N. Y.

OHIO

Cincinnati D. A. Assn.

Lecture Class—April 6th, 1934, 7:30 p.m.

Place—Union Central Bldg., Medical-Dental Suite.

Lecturer—Mrs. L. Lederer.

Subject—"Understanding Human Nature."

Meeting—April 27th, 1934, 7 p.m.

Place—Hotel Gibson, Clubroom A.

Speakers—Hazel Carton, Thelma Lake, Catherine Berry, Patricia Woodruff, Genevieve Meredith. (New Members).

Subject—"My First Impression of the Cincinnati D. A. Assn and What it Might Mean to Me."

Speakers—Agnes Kearney, Helen Morris, Esther Gaenge, Dorothy Poe, Margaret Davis. (Old Members).

Topic—"What the Association Has Meant to Me."

Helene Mayers, President, 6019 Madison Road, Cincinnati.

Toledo D. A. Society

Meeting—April 16th, 1934, 7 p.m.

Place—Cole Laboratories.

Speaker—Representative, L. D. Caulk Co.

Topic—"Alloy and Cements."

Demonstration—"The Preparation of Alloy and Cements."

Miss Ethel Runge, Program Chairman. Myra Decker, Chm. Publ., 3404 Monroe Street, Toledo.

OKLAHOMA**Oklahoma State D. A. Society***Meeting*—March 13th, 1934.*Place*—Parlor L, Huckins Hotel.*Tri State Meeting Place*—Kansas City.*Dates*—May, 6th 7th and 8th.

All Assistants in the Tri State Territory are urged to attend.

Anna Mae Mahoney, Pres., 406 Surety Bldg., Muskogee, Okla.

OREGON**Portland D. A. Society***Meeting*—April 3rd, 1934, 7:15 p.m.*Place*—Room 622, Selling Bldg.

Election and Installation of Officers.

Harriet Hamann, Chm. Publ., 1003 Selling Bldg., Portland.

Southern Willamette D. A. Society*Meeting*—April 16th, 1934, 7:30 p.m.*Place*—Clinic Room, Miner Bldg.,

Eugene, Oregon.

Clinician—Dr. J. L. Hesse.*Clinic*—"Dental Construction."

Refreshments, Helen Luman, Alice Mae Hurd. Orpha Lay, Chm. Publ., 410 Tiffany Bldg., Eugene.

PENNSYLVANIA**Pittsburgh D. A. Assn.***Meeting*—April 10th, 7:45 p.m.*Place*—Jenkins Arcade, Assembly Room.*Speaker*—Dr. Alice S. Gularski.*Topic*—"Personal Hygiene."*Card Party*—April 4th, 1934.*Place*—Congress of Womens Clubs.*Committee*—Sarah Trenner, Chairman, Blanch McKee, Mary McDonald.

Robert M. Grossman, President, 1227 Sandusky Street, Pittsburgh.

WASHINGTON**Seattle District D. A. Assn.***Meeting*—April 4th, 1934, 7:30 p.m.*Place*—Medical Dental Bldg.*Speakers*—Mr. Turner, Mr. Gee.*Topic*—"Red Cross, First Aid Review."*Clinic*—"Dressings" by Helen Marrs.

Election of Officers and Plans for the State Meeting to be held in June.

Refreshments, Lillian Evans.

Hazel Dresser, Chm. Publ., 818 Cobb Bldg., Seattle.

Tacoma D. A. Society*Meeting*—April 5th, 1934, 7:30 p.m.*Place*—Medical Arts Auditorium.*Speaker*—Dr. Jennie M. Reed, Child Psychiatrist, Tacoma Public Schools.*Topic*—"Child Psychology."

Discussion of Program for State Meeting to be held in June.

Vivian Sherman, Program Chairman, State Meeting.

Refreshments, Katherine Churchill, Catherine McDonough.

Vivian C. Sherman, Chm. Publ., 1519 Washington Bldg., Tacoma.

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We the following Dental
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your endeavors and especially
your Program for the State
Dental Assistant's Association
meeting to be held in Chatta-
nooga, April 26-27-28, 1934.

•

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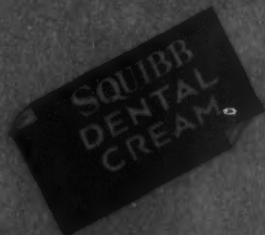
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Squibb Dental Cream goes as far in the safe and effective cleansing of the teeth as a dentifrice can go. Prescribe it also for gums of low tone or impaired resistance. After sixty days you will be able to judge for yourself its effectiveness. A complimentary package of Squibb Dental Cream will be sent you upon receipt of your professional card.



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3004 Squibb Building, New York City

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